

THE OLD CURTIS HOMESTEAD

The old Curtis Homestead was built in 1819, by Levi Capt. Bennett, for John Griswold, who, for many years kept what was called "The Cold Water Tavern," the name coming from the never-failing spring of cold water supplying the tavern. Waters from this mountain spring still flow to the Homestead in 1975. Louisa Griswold, daughter of Francis, married Henry B. Curtis in 1851, and from that time the property was known as the Curtis Homestead. The present occupant is Mrs. Lois N. Curtis, whose husband, Hobart Curtis, was a grandson of Henry B. Curtis and Louisa Griswold Curtis.

The old Belmont and Easton Turnpike, better known as the North and South Turnpike, was opened in 1812. Cattle drovers using the road stopped overnight at the "Cold Water Tavern," using the barns to shelter their stock.

P. P. Bliss, composer and singer of sacred songs, was a guest at the "Curtis Homestead," where he held a musical convention, and during the same time, revival services were held at the Clinton Centre Baptist Church, which Mr. Bliss attended, and noted the hesitance of those present to accept Christ. It seemed they were ALMOST, but not quite persuaded. The inspiration of the song "Almost Persuaded," came to Mr. Bliss, and he went from the meeting to the home of Judson Curtis, near Aldenville, where he was staying for the night, and wrote the hymn.

The text given above on "The Old Curtis Homestead" is a typescript by SRP of a text written by Alice Mae Williams (daughter of George A. Curtis and Jeannette Geuther), who, on August 18, 1978, graciously permitted SRP and DWP--during the course of their visit with her in her home in Seelyville, PA.-- to make copies of numerous texts owned by her on Clinton Township and its early settlers.